

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 12, 13, and 24 as follows.

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for database systems to access data from other
2 database systems, the method comprising the steps of:
3 a first database system directly storing first ~~data~~ database records in first data blocks
4 having a first data block size;
5 concurrently with said first database system storing first database records in first data
6 blocks having a first data block size, said first database system directly
7 accessing a copy of second data blocks in which a second database system
8 directly stored second ~~data~~ database ~~and~~ records;
9 said second data blocks having at least one data block with a second data block size
10 different than said first data block size;
11 wherein said first data blocks are first atomic units of storage allocated to store said
12 first database records; and
13 wherein said second data blocks are second atomic units of storage allocated to store
14 said second database records.

1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method
2 further includes the step of integrating said copy of said second data
3 blocks within said first database system as a tablespace that includes
4 said copy of said second data blocks.

1 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of accessing a copy
2 of second data blocks includes storing user data in said copy of said
3 second data blocks.

1 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method further includes the step of
2 detaching one or more tablespaces from said second database system, wherein said
3 one or more tablespaces include said second data blocks.

1 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein each data block of said copy of said
2 second data blocks has said second data block size.

1 6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further including the step of generating metadata
2 that specifies a plurality of block sizes for data blocks directly accessible to said first
3 database system.

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1 7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein:
2 said metadata defines tablespaces and specifies for each tablespace of said
3 tablespaces a particular data block size for all data blocks in said tablespace;
4 and
5 the method further includes the step of integrating said copy of said second data
6 blocks within said first database system as at least one tablespace that includes
7 said copy of said second data blocks, and
8 wherein the step of integrating includes modifying said metadata to reflect said
9 second data block size for said at least one tablespace.

1 8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said first database system is a data
2 warehouse and said second database system is a source database system for said data
3 warehouse.

1 9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further including the step of integrating said copy
2 of said second data blocks within said data warehouse as a tablespace that includes
3 said copy of said second data blocks.

1 10. (Original) The method of Claim 1,
2 wherein first data files contain said first data blocks and second data files contain said
3 second data blocks; and
4 wherein the method further includes the step of generating a mapping:
5 between said first data files and said first data block size, and
6 between said second data files and said second data block size.

1 11. (Original) The method of Claim 1,
2 wherein a first tablespace contains said first data blocks and a second tablespace
3 contains said second data blocks; and
4 wherein the method further includes the step of generating a mapping:
5 between said first tablespace and said first data block size, and
6 between said second tablespace and said second data block size.

1 12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1,

2 wherein said first database system includes a buffer cache in which said first database
 3 system stores data blocks of multiple sizes; and
 4 wherein said method further includes the step of concurrently storing said first data
 5 blocks and said second data blocks in said buffer cache.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences
 2 of instructions for database systems to access data from other database systems,
 3 wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more
 4 processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

5 a first database system directly storing first ~~data~~ database records in first data blocks
 6 having a first data block size;
 7 concurrently with said first database system storing first database records in first data
 8 blocks having a first data block size, said first database system directly
 9 accessing a copy of second data blocks in which a second database system
 10 directly stored second ~~data;~~ database and records;

11 said second data blocks having at least one data block with a second data block size
 12 different than said first data block size;

13 wherein said first data blocks are first atomic units of storage allocated to store said
 14 first database records; and

15 wherein said second data blocks are second atomic units of storage allocated to store
 16 said second database records.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein the
 2 computer-readable medium further includes instructions for performing
 3 the step of integrating said copy of said second data blocks within said

4 first database system as a tablespace that includes said copy of said
5 second data blocks.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein the step
2 of accessing a copy of second data blocks includes storing user data in
3 said copy of said second data blocks.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein the computer-
2 readable medium further includes instructions for performing the step of detaching
3 one or more tablespaces from said second database system, wherein said one or more
4 tablespaces include said second data blocks.

AI 1 17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each data block of
2 said copy of said second data blocks has said second data block size.

1 18. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, further including instructions
2 for performing the step of generating metadata that specifies a plurality of block sizes
3 for data blocks directly accessible to said first database system.

1 19. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein:
2 said metadata defines tablespaces and specifies for each tablespace of said
3 tablespaces a particular data block size for all data blocks in said tablespace;
4 and

5 the computer-readable medium further includes instructions for performing the step
6 of integrating said copy of said second data blocks within said first database
7 system as at least one tablespace that includes said copy of said second data
8 blocks, and

9 wherein the step of integrating includes modifying said metadata to reflect said

10 second data block size for said at least one tablespace.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein said first database
2 system is a data warehouse and said second database system is a source database
3 system for said data warehouse.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, further including instructions
2 for performing the step of integrating said copy of said second data blocks within said
3 data warehouse as a tablespace that includes said copy of said second data blocks.

1 22. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13,
2 wherein first data files contain said first data blocks and second data files contain said
3 second data blocks; and

4 wherein the computer-readable medium further includes instructions for performing

5 the step of generating a mapping:

6 between said first data files and said first data block size, and

7 between said second data files and said second data block size.

1 23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13,

2 wherein a first tablespace contains said first data blocks and a second tablespace
3 contains said second data blocks; and
4 wherein the computer-readable medium further includes instructions for performing
5 the step of generating a mapping:
6 between said first tablespace and said first data block size, and
7 between said second tablespace and said second data block size.

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1 24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13,
2 wherein said first database system includes a buffer cache in which said first database
3 system stores data blocks of multiple sizes; and
4 wherein said computer-readable medium further includes the step of concurrently
5 storing said first data blocks and said second data blocks in said buffer cache.
